

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 24, lines 1 through 9 with the following amended paragraph:

This alternative method separates the acts of distracting the disc space and core placement. Now referring to FIG. 24, a spreader 900 is passed down the endplate insertion instrument 500' shown in FIG 19. Since the instrument kit preferably contains one spreader height for each core height, core trialing is preferably conducted with this spreader instrument. Once the appropriate core height has been determined, the spreader is left in place, and the core is placed with a core insertion instrument such as the core insertion instrument of the Centreline Centreline® set found in catalog No. 2869-22-000 manufactured by DePuy Spine of Raynham, Massachusetts (~~currently the same instrument used in the CentreLigne Set to place the core~~)(where is this?) and employed off the primary axis of the endplate insertion instrument.